Form 10-300 (July 1969)

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE:		
Illinois	 	
COUNTY:	 	
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NEW 17, 1470 NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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FOR NPS USE ON	ILY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

	(Type all entries	- complete applicable	le sections)	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE			
1. NA			<u> </u>					
C	OMMON:	Scott and Compar	ny Building					
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	CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNE	RSHIP	STATUS				
-	District & Building Site Structure Object	l — I	c Acquisition:  In Process  Being Considered	<ul><li>☑ Occupied</li><li>☑ Unoccupied</li><li>☑ Proservation work</li><li>in progress</li></ul>	Yes: ☐ Restricted ☑ Unrestricted ☐ No			
P	PRESENT USE (Check One or M	ore as Appropriate)		<del></del>	L			
2	∑ Commercial	lijtary 🔲 Reli	ate Residence	Transportation Other (Specify)	Restricted   Unrestricted   No   Comments			
Entertainment Museum Scientific								
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CARLETION.		Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed		
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	⊊ Alter	red	☐ Unaltered	!	Moved	○ Original Site

The first unit of the Carson, Pirie, Scott and Company Store at 11-15 East Madison Street stands nine stories and one basement high and is built on 50 foot wood piles. Its corner addition is twelve stories high with three basements resting on caisson. foundations. The exterior of the iron and steel frame structure is sheathed in white terra cotta above the second story. Here the fundamental interior arrangement is that of unbroken floor space of the display and sale of merchandise. Wide Chicago windows admit a maximum amount of daylight into these areas and establish the basis of design for the store's exterior. The windows of the first two stories are encased in highly original ornamental ironwork. George Grant Elmslie, who detailed Sullivan's lavish ornament on the base, explained that the main intention behind it was to produce "a richly flowing picture frame ... to surround the rich and ornate window displays." The corner portion of the building, where the main entrance is located, is curved with a vertical emphasis in contrast to the horizontality of the rest of the structure.

Five bays on State Street were added to these original buildings by D. H. Burnham and Company in 1906. No major change was then made on the State Street store until 1948 when the original cornice was replaced by a parapet. In 1960, Holabird and Root designed an addition along State Street in the style of Sullivan.

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Pre-Columbian	16th Century	☐ 18th Century	🔀 20th Century
☐ 15th Century	17th Century	19th Century	
PECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applica	ble and Known)		
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
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Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
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☐ Agriculture	[ Invention	Science	<u> </u>
Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	·
Art     Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music     Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Schlesinger and Mayer, a Chicago dry goods firm since 1872, engaged Adler and Sullivan in 1891 to design an addition to their original building on the S.E. corner of State and Madison Streets and to unite the two structures behind a uniform facade. Because of the Depression of 1893, the project was set aside. Six years later, when the company decided to build, Adler and Sullivan had separated and Louis H. Sullivan was selected architect. The new 1899 structure stood just east of the State and Madison intersection; it was nine stories high and three bays (60 feet) wide. The next portion of the building was begun in 1903, replacing the old store at the corner and its neighbor to the south. This addition, 12 stories high with three bays along Madison Street and seven along State Street, was completed in 1904, the year Carson, Pirie, Scott and Company, another dry goods merchant, bought out Schlesinger and Mayer.<sup>2</sup>

Cited by the Commission on Chicago Architectural Landmarks in 1957 for having special merit, the Carson, Pirie, Scott and Company Store is considered by many to be Louis Sullivan's greatest masterpiece. It was the last of the large commercial buildings designed by Sullivan and set a standard at the beginning of the 20th Century that others could only hope to emulate.

Of skyscraper-type skeleton construction, the store represents the ultimate achievement of the Chicago School. Sullivan refused to compromise with the prevalent eclecticism and design what he felt to be the proper architectural treatment for a department store. The building's excelent proportions are derived directly from its underlying iron and steel frame. Wide bayed Chicago windows, emphasized by horizontal bands of Sullivan's delicate ornament, express the building's broad display spaces. This ornament, appearing more profusely on the store's first two stories, is in no way derivative of Classical forms, but combines organic decoration with geometric discipline and order to complement the building's structure.

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Louis Sullivan was selected to design a department store by firms who were pioneers in Chicago's thriving dry goods business. He is remembered today as Frank Lloyd Wright's employer and teacher and as the founder of a school of architectural philosophy that may be summarized in Sullivan's own words, "form follows function." The design of the Schlesinger and Mayer Store, in its openness, simplicity and refined proportions, epitomizes this philosophy. Architects throughout the world have looked to Chicago and this building as one of the most revolutionary and influential structures in the entire mainstream of modern architecture

9 condt.

- Condit, Carl, The Chicago School of Architecture, Chicago:
  The University of Chicago Press, 1964. pps. 35, 89, 117, 128, 135, 136, 142, 160-166, 170-172, 174, 183, 190, 193, 213. Copies in file.

  Analysis and seven photographs
- Condit, Carl, American Building Materials and Techniques from the Beginning of the Colonial Settlements to the Present Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1968 p. 130

  Condit states that Chicago architecture reached its highest level in this building.

  Burnham: 721, C74 am
- Connely, Willard, Louis Sullivan as he Lived, New York: Horizon Press, 1960. pps. 211-212, 234-37, 241, pl 35-36.

  Two photos

  Burnham Library: 724.81, s9500; CPL: B, Su54c
- Drury, John, Old Chicago Houses, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1941. p. 493. Copy in file.
- Giedion, Sigfried, Space, Time and Architecture, Cambridge:
  Harvard University Press, 1963. pps. 237, 386-388, 390-91.
  Copies in file.
  Two photos
- Kowper, Frederick, Illinois Architecture, From Territorial Times to the Present: A selective Guide, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1968. p. 64 Copy in file.

  Two photos.
- Kogan, Herman, and Lloyd Wendt, Chicago: A Pictorial History, New York: Bonanza Books, 1958, p. 107. Copy in file.

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Reference to firm and previous buildings. Photos.

McAndres, John, "Who was Louis Sullivan," Arts, Vol. XXXI, (September, 1956). pp. 23-27.

Photos

McAndrew feels Sullivan's interaction with Wright was partly responsible for Carson's design.

Burnham: 705, A79fo

Morrison, Hugh, Prophet of Modern Architecture, New York:

Museum of Modern Art and W.W. Norton & Co. Inc., 1935

(revised in 1953) pp 197-201, 303, 365-67.

Three photos

Extensive bibliography on Sullivan

Description and critiques by Sullivan's best known biographer.

Morrison, Hugh, "Louis Sullivan Today," AIA Journal, Vol. XXVI, (September, 1956). p.99
Reference to Carsons as a big leap forward
Burnham: 720.6, A51j

"The New Schlesinger and Mayer Building, Chicago: Substructure, Structure, Design and Fireproffing, Making an Architectural Unit," The Brickbuilder, Vol. 12, (May, 1903) pp 101-104.

Six illustrations including plan, four photos of construction, 1900-03, details of columns

Burnham: 720.5, b84.

- Pierce, Bessie Louis, A History of Chicago, 1871-1893, Vol III, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1957. pp. 40, 176, 179, 183. Copies in file.
- Randall, Frank A., <u>History of the Development of Building Construction</u>
  in Chicago, Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1949.

  p. 148. Copy in file.
- "The Schlesinger and Mayer Building, 'an Attempt to Give Functional Expression to the Architecture of a Department Store,' by Lyndon P. Smith, and 'Another View What Mr. Louis Sullivan Stands for,' by H.W. Desmond," Architectural Record, Vol. XVI, (July, 1904) pp. 53-64. Copy in file.

  Photos. Burnham: 720.5, A67r

Siegel, Arthur, ed., Chicago's Famous Buildings, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1965. p. 130, Copy in file Photos. Form 10-300a (July 1969)

### - UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Sullivan, Louis, Kindergarten Chats (revised 1918 and Other Writings, New York: Wittenborn, Schultz, Inc. 1947.

p. 40-42, "A Department Store."

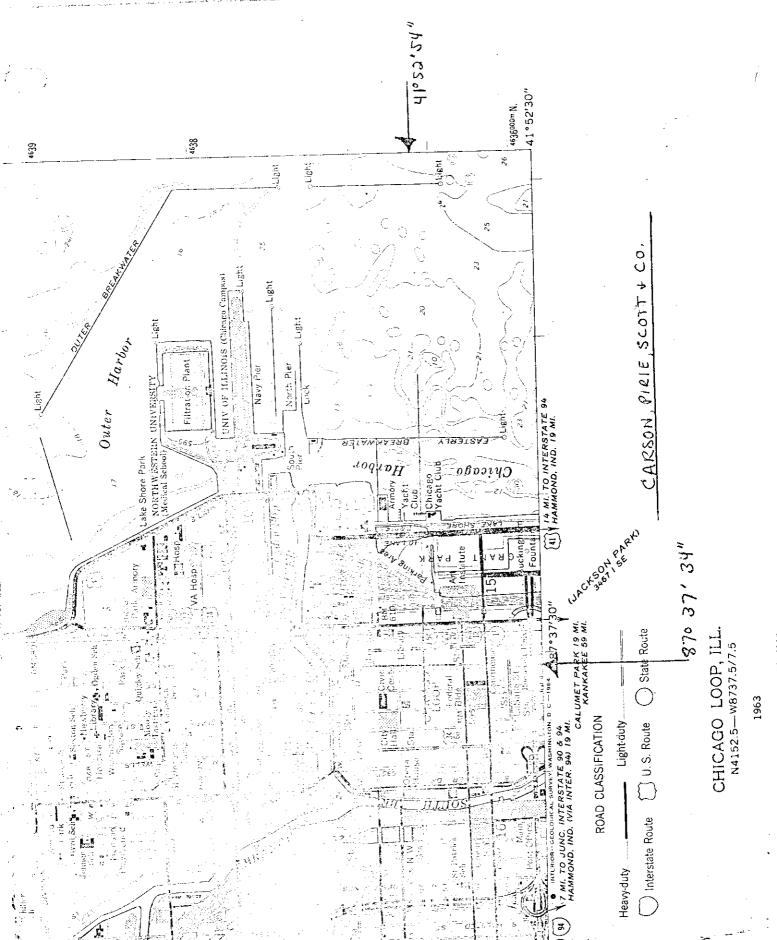
Reasoning behind the form a department store takes. Burnham: 724.81, s95k CPL: 720.4, Su54

Van Ormer, Geraldine Good, Louis Sullivan's Ornament as Exemplified in the Carson Pirie Scott Building, University Park, Pennsylvania, 1960.

Several good photographs M.A. Thesis from Pennsylvania State University Bibliography

Webster, Carson, Architecture of Chicago and Vicinity, Society of Architectural Historians, August Tour, 1965, pps. 62-63 Copy in file.

_ <u>-</u>	MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES					
12:	Burnham Library, Art Institur		i cago			
	l section from fret sawn wooden screen originally in Carson					
Pirie Scott Store.						
Microfilm containing floor plans, elevations and structural						
details: Roll 4, Frames 345-394A						
Burchard, John and Albert Bush-Brown, The Architecture of America,						
Boston: Little Brown and Co., 1966. pp. 201-202. Copies in					e.	
	Artistic innovations	of the	building discussed o Public Library (C	• PT.) •	1	
	Burnham: 720.973, B94.	Curcag				
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	Mrs. Susan S. Benjamin			DATE	20 30	
	Commission on Chicago Historic	cal and	Architectural Landmarks	November	20, 190	
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	tional Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Pul	blic Law	National Register.	*		
	89-665), I hereby nominate this property for i	nciusion	·			
	in the National Register and certify that it he evaluated according to the criteria and proce	dures set				
	forth by the National Park Service. The reco	ommended	Chief, Office of Archeole	ogy and Historic Pre	eservation	
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### ILLINOIS HISTORIC SITES SURVEY INVENTORY

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1.	Name of Site:		V	,
	Common Carson, Pirie, Scott & Co	o. Buildin	ıg	
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2.	Location:			
	Street and Number SE corner State & M	Madison	Township	Section
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3.	Classification:			
	Category (check one)		Integrity (che	ck one)
	( ) District (x) Building ( ) Site ( ) Structure			(x) Unaltered (x) Original
4.	Ownership:	Status (d	check one)	Site
	(x) Private ( ) Public	(X) Occup ( ) Unocc ( ) Prese		progress
	Access to Public			
	( ) Yes ( ) Restricted (x)	Unrestrict	ed ( ) No	
	Present Use (check one or more)			
	(x) Commercial( ) Milit( ) Educational( ) Museu( ) Entertainment( ) Park	•	( ) Relig ( ) Scien ( ) Trans ( ) Other	tific portation
5.	Ownership of Property:			
	Owner's Name		Phone Number	
	Street and Number			
	City or Town			
	<u>State</u> <u>County</u>		Zip Code	
6.	Description:			
	(X) Excellent () Good () Ruins () Unexposed	( ) Fair	( )	Deteriorated
	Is there a program of preservation underw	ay? (X)	Yes ? ( )	No

1.	Historical Inemes:	(check one or	more of the follo	owing)				
	<ul> <li>( ) Archaeological Site</li> <li>( ) Archaeological Site</li> <li>( ) French Influence</li> <li>( ) Illinois Frontier</li> <li>( ) Illinois Early</li> <li>( X) Illinois Middle</li> <li>( X) Illinois Late</li> <li>( ) Famous People</li> </ul>	•	(Pre-Columbian (Post-Columbian (1673-1780) (1780-1818) (1818-1850) (1850-1900) (1900-present) (give names &	n to 1673)				
8.	Specific Date: 1899, 1903							
	Areas of significance (check one or more of the following)							
9.	( ) Aboriginal (historic) ( ) Aboriginal (pre-historic) ( x) Agriculture ( ) Architecture ( ) Art ( x) Commerce ( ) Communication ( ) Conservation ( ) Education ( ) Engineering ( ) Industry ( ) Invention ( ) Landscape Architecture  Brief statement of signification ( response to the statement of signification of the statement of signification of the statement of the statement of signification of the statement of	re Leance: (inclu	( ) Literatur ( ) Military ( ) Music ( ) Political ( ) Religion/ ( ) Science ( ) Sculpture ( ) Social/Hu ( ) Theater ( ) Transport ( ) Urban Plat ( ) Other (soulder all names and dais Sullivan.	Philosophy manitarian ation nning pecify)				
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Robertson, Robert, Of Whales and Men. New York, Alfred K. Knopf, Inc., 1954. National Register material.

Bibliography

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#### Description:

The first unit of the Carson, Pirie, Scott and Company Store at 11-15 East Madison Street stands nine stories and one basement high and is built on 50 foot wood piles. Its corner addition is twelve stories high with three basements resting on caisson foundations. The exterior of the iron and steel frame structure is sheathed in white terra cotta above the second story. Here the fundamental interior arrangement is that of unbroken floor space of the display and sale of merchandise. Wide Chicago windows admit a maximum amount of daylight into these areas and establish the basis of design for the store's exterior. The windows of the first two stories are encased in highly original ornamental ironwork. George Grant Elmslie, who detailed Sullivan's lavish ornament on the base, explained that the main intention behind it was to produce "a richly flowing picture frame ... to surround the rich and ornate window displays." The corner portion of the building, where the main entrance is located, is curved with a vertical emphasis in contrast to the horizontality of the rest of the structure.

Five bays on State Street were added to these original buildings by D. H. Burnham and Company in 1906. No major change was then made on the State Street store until 1948 when the original cornice was replaced by a parapet. In 1960, Holabird and Root designed an addition along State Street in the style of Sullivan.

#### Significance:

Schlesinger and Mayer, a Chicago dry goods firm since 1872, engaged Adler and Sullivan in 1891 to design an addition to their original building on the S.E. corner of State and Madison Streets and to unite the two structures behind a uniform facade. Because of the Depression of 1893, the project was set aside. Six years later, when the company decided to build, Adler and Sullivan had separated and Louis H. Sullivan was selected architect. The new 1899 structure stood just east of the State and Madison intersection; it was nine stories high and three bays (60 feet) wide. The next portion of the building was begun in 1903, replacing the old store at the corner and its neighbor to the south. This addition, 12 stories high with three bays along Madison Street and seven along State Street, was completed in 1904, the year Carson, Pirie, Scott and Company, another dry goods merchant, bought out Schlesinger and Mayer.

Cited by the Commission on Chicago Architectural Landmarks in 1957 for having special merit, the Carson, Pirie, Scott and Company Store is considered by many to be Louis Sullivan's greatest masterpiece. It was the last of the large commercial buildings designed by Sullivan and set a standard at the beginning of the 20th Century that others could only hope to emulate.

Of skyscraper-type skeleton construction, the store represents the ultimate achievement of the Chicago School. Sullivan refused to compromise with the prevalent eclesticism and design what he felt to be the proper architectural treatment for a department store. The building's excellent proportions are derived directly from its underlying iron and steel frame. Wide bayed Chicago windows, emphasized by horizontal bands of Sullivan's delicate ornament, express the building's broad display spaces. This ornament, appearing more profusely on the store's first two stories, is in no way derivative of Classical forms, but combines organic decoration with geometric discipline and order to complement the building's structure.

#### Significance, cont.

Louis Sullivan was selected to design a department store by firms who were pioneers in Chicago's thriving dry goods business. He is remembered today as Frank Lloyd Wright's employer and teacher and as the founder of a school of architectural philosophy that may be summarized in Sullivan's own words, "form follows function." The design of the Schlesinger and Mayer Store, in its openness, simplicity and refined proportions, epitomizes this philosophy. Architects throughout the world have looked to Chicago and this building as one of the most revolutionary and influential structures in the entire mainstream of modern architecture.

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